



Centers for Disease Control
and Prevention (CDC)
Atlanta GA 30333

July 8, 2019

Emma Best
MuckRock News
DEPT MR 74322 411A Highland Ave
Somerville, Massachusetts 02144
Via email: 74392-75779829@requests.muckrock.com

Dear Ms. Best:

This letter is our final response to your Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (CDC/ATSDR) Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request of June 4, 2019, assigned #19-00847-FOIA, for:

Documents mentioning or relating to Anonymous (the hacker movement/collective, see below) or hactivism (defined as hacking as a form of protest and/or activism) generated between 1 January 2009 and 1 January 2019, including but not limited to:

- * Internal reports, bulletins, warnings and alerts relating to Anonymous or hactivism
- * Reports from the appropriate IT (Information Technology) or computer offices regarding possible cyber attacks by Anonymous or other hactivists
- * Reports, bulletins, warnings and alerts relating to or mentioning Anonymous or hactivism sent to or received from any federal law enforcement or intelligence agencies or any fusion center
- * Incident reports investigating possible hacking activity falling within the office's jurisdiction and allegedly carried out by members of Anonymous or other hactivist groups
- * Materials generated as a result of any suspected or actual compromise, breach or "dox" (revealing of personal or private information) by Anonymous or other hactivists

Anonymous has been described by government agencies as a non-hierarchical hactivist collective. Anonymous uses hacking (and arguably cracking) techniques to register political protest in campaigns known as "#ops." Best known for their distributed denial of services (DDoS) attacks, past activities have included attacks against the Church of Scientology; Visa, Paypal, and others who withdrew their services from WikiLeaks' Julian Assange after that group began releasing war documents: #OpTunisia and others purporting to support the Arab Spring; and a campaign that brought down the website of the Westboro Baptist Church. #Ops are usually marked with the release of a video of a reader in a Guy Fawkes mask using a computer generated voice. See attached for additional background information.

We have administratively closed your request for the following reason:

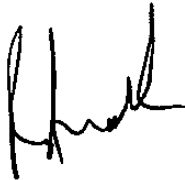
- ☒ The agency has not received additional information requested from you in our letter dated June 6, 2019.
- ☒ You have failed to reasonably describe your request to assist the agency in conducting a reasonable and adequate search for records.
- ☐ You have withdrawn your request.
- ☐ Failure to pay fees.

Appeal Rights

You may contact our FOIA Public Liaison at 770-488-6277 to discuss any aspect of your request. Additionally, you may contact the Office of Government Information Services (OGIS) at the National Archives and Records Administration to inquire about the FOIA mediation services they offer. The contact information for OGIS is as follows: Office of Government Information Services, National Archives and Records Administration, 8601 Adelphi Road-OGIS, College Park, Maryland 20740-6001, e-mail at ogis@nara.gov; telephone at 202-741-5770; toll free at 1-877-684-6448; or facsimile at 202-741-5769.

If you are not satisfied with the response to this request, you may administratively appeal by writing to the Deputy Agency Chief FOIA Officer, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Public Affairs, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Hubert H. Humphrey Building, 200 Independence Avenue, Suite 729H, Washington, D.C. 20201. Please mark both your appeal letter and envelope "FOIA Appeal." **Your appeal must be postmarked or electronically transmitted by October 6, 2019.**

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Roger Andoh', with a stylized, cursive script.

Roger Andoh
CDC/ATSDR FOIA Officer
Office of the Chief Operating Officer
(770) 488-6399
Fax: (404) 235-1852